

ANIMAL BITES

State of New Jersey EMD Guidecards Version 8/98

**K
e
y

Q
u
e
s
t
i
o
n
s**

Is the animal contained?
What type of animal bit the patient?
Is the patient short of breath or does it hurt to breathe?
What part of the body was bitten?
Is the patient bleeding?
Does the bleeding stop when you apply pressure?
How long ago did they receive the bite?

SIMULTANEOUS ALS/BLS

**D
i
s
p
a
t
c
h**

Unconscious/not breathing normally.
Decreased level of consciousness.
Uncontrolled bleeding.
Serious neck or face bites.
Bites from poisonous animals.

BLS DISPATCH

Controlled bleeding.
Swelling at bite site.
Bite below neck, non-poisonous.

ANIMAL BITES

Pre-Arrival Instructions

Contain the animal, if possible.

Keep patient calm and still.

If bleeding, use clean cloth and apply pressure directly over it.

If cloth becomes soaked, do not remove, add to what is already there.

Use care not to obstruct the airway or breathing.

Elevate bleeding extremities.

For snake bites;

- Do not elevate extremity.

- Do not use ice.

- Do not attempt to remove venom.

Lock away any pets.

If the patient's condition changes, call me back.

Prompts

If unconscious, go to UNCONSCIOUS/BREATHING NORMALLY AIRWAY CONTROL

Has law enforcement been notified?

Has Animal Control been notified?



Short Report

Age

Sex

Specific location

Chief complaint

Pertinent related symptoms

Medical/Surgical history, if any

Other agencies responding

Any dangers to responding units